



FACULTAD DE MEDICINA

Concepcion, July 27, 1955.-

Dr.  
Benjamin G. Horning, M.D.  
W.K. Kellog Foundation  
Battle Creek, Michigan  
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Horning:

In my last letter I submitted to you the name of Dr. Mario Altamirano as a candidate for Physiology. Lately I have written to Dr. Altamirano asking him if he would be willing to accept an offer from our University.

I would like to know your opinion about him and in case you consider him good I would appreciate your contacting him and making a formal offer in our behalf.

We are relying on your help in the search of a good physiologist. We have made no effort to find one here in Chile or in South America, because we know that there is no one with the standing we want. As I told you in my letter of July 5, we are not in a big hurry, although the sooner we can have the man here, the better. The University is willing to make whatever sacrifice necessary to secure a man of high scientific and educational standing for the professorship in Physiology.

In your letter of May 17 you said that you were going to ask Dr. Weir of the Rockefeller Foundation for suggestions. Has he given you any?

Expecting your news I have abstained from contacting other agencies such as UNESCO, WHO, the British Council, etc., because we want an American or at least an American trained man and because we want a man whom you trust in; I shall not do otherwise till you advise us to do so.





FACULTAD DE MEDICINA

Dr. Alejandro Garretón, the Dean of the University of Chile School of Medicine is just back from a short visit to the States.

Before he left I had a long talk with him. He told me that he was travelling as a Rotarian but that he was going to try to contact you and the Rockefeller Foundation about a certain disgraceful letter of Dr. Hernan Alessandri. We talked also about the case of Dr. Günther and he offered me to explain everything to you and to make clear the attitude of our University in all this regrettable affair imposed upon her.

Unhappily, in his report to his Faculty after his return, Dr. Garretón has forgotten his University's affair and emphasized instead the shocking impression that the resignation of Dr. Günther and his collaborators has made upon you, and added that you were satisfied only when he gave you the assurance that Dr. Günther and his group were being received in Santiago. He added that you were considering the withdrawal of your help to us.

You can imagine the impact of these statements here. In spite of my explanations and my assurances that although you regretted - as we do - the affair of Dr. Günther, nothing in your letters and in your fellowship program with us has changed, the Rector asked me if I had considered the possibility of going to the United States to talk personally with you in order to explain the whole affair and wipe out all kind of misunderstanding.

I have not talked with Dr. Garretón, I know that he has bitter affairs in his Faculty and doesn't want to put more timber in the fire. Maybe he misinterpreted you, maybe he thought convenient for his purposes to minimize his affairs and emphasize ours.

We have here a saying "la ropa sucia se lava en casa" (dirty clothes are washed at home) that is why I didn't send you a long and complete record - with documents and publications, etc.- of the affair of Dr. Günther. I have relied on your personal knowledge of us and on our very clean record as a University to speak for us. Furthermore it is understood that no University is willing to fire a good teacher or researcher if there not very powerful reasons to do so.



FACULTAD DE MEDICINA

I should be delighted to see you again and to have the opportunity to visit some surgical clinics, but I don't want to make the University spend a lot of money if there is nothing to be explained. Before accepting the suggestion of the Rector I would like to have you tell me whether you consider it advisable for me to go to the United States for a talk with you about the affair of Dr. Günther and to help you in the search for a physiologist. So, please, give me your sincere advice.

Hope to write you very soon about Dr. Edgardo Enríquez and about Dr. Darío Enríquez.

Very sincerely yours,,

BIBLIOTECAS UdeC

Dr. Ignacio González G.  
DEAN.